

Message Text

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51

ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 NEA-11 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 FMC-04

INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 CG-00 COA-02 DLOS-06 DOTE-00

TRSE-00 OMB-01 L-03 SIL-01 LAB-06 DRC-01 /058 W

----- 035728

R 011350Z FEB 74

FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1358

UNCLAS TEL AVIV 0608

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRN, IS

SUBJ: PORT CONGESTION SURCHARGE--ASHDOD/HAIFA

REF: STATE 019534

1. MOST SHIPPING CONFERENCES IMPOSED CONGESTION SURCHARGE OF 15 PERCENT ON IMPORTS AND 10 PERCENT ON EXPORTS TO/FROM HAIFA AND ASHDOD PORTS EFFECTIVE JANUARY 3, 1974. CONTAINER AND "ROLL-ON ROLL-OFF" SHIPS, AS WELL AS PASSENGER LINERS CARRYING CARGO, ARE EXEMPTED FROM SURCHARGE, SINCE THEY RECEIVE EXPEDITIOUS HANDLING. GULF CONFERENCE WHICH HAD IMPOSED SURCHARGE OF 10 AND 5 PERCENT RESPECTIVELY ON NOV 24, 1973 HAS RAISED SURCHARGE RATES TO BRING THEM INTO LINE WITH OTHER SHIPPING CONFERENCES AS OF FEBRUARY 1, 1974.

2. REASONS FOR PORT CONGESTION ARE: (A) MANY LONGSHOREMEN ARE STILL MOBILIZED IN ISRAEL DEFENSE FORCES(IDF); (B) WAREHOUSES ARE OVERCROWDED AS IMPORTERS HAVE BEEN SLOW IN PROCESSING GOODS THROUGH PORTS, WHICH IS IN TURN CAUSED BY PERSISTENT SHORTAGES OF INLAND TRANSPORT, AND GENERAL DECLINE IN DOMESTIC DEMAND FOR CONSUMPTION GOODS RISING FROM WAR AND MOBILIZATION. NO LABOR DISPUTES HAVE RECENTLY BEEN REPORTED AT PORTS.

3. AS OF JANUARY 31, THIRTY VESSELS WERE WAITING AT HAIFA AND 27 AT ASHDOD, AND THERE HAD BEEN LITTLE CHANGE IN THESE NUMBERS

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DURING PRECEDING WEEK. WAITING TIME RANGED BETWEEN 1 AND 20

DAYS DEPENDING ON CARGO CLASSIFICATION AND ON THE TYPE OF VESSEL. FOR EXAMPLE, DEFENSE GOODS BEING IMPORTED RECEIVE PRIORITY IN UNLOADING.

4. CONGESTION, WHICH IS NORMAL PHENOMENON DURING WINTER CIRTRUS SEASON, CAN BE EXPECTED TO CONTINUE IN SHORT RUN, AS FORECAST IS FOR INCREASEIN CARGO TO BE HANDLED BY PORTS. PRESSURES MAY EASE,HOWEVER,AS IDF GRADUALLY RELEASES CONSCRIPTED PORT WORKERS AND CIVILIAN TRUCKS AND EQUIPMENT. KEATING

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Message Attributes

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Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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30 JUN 2005

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